



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Importing Animals and Animal Products from the EU in a 'No Deal' Brexit - The Detailed Processes

Webinar – 19 March 2019



Forestry Commission
England



NATURAL
ENGLAND



Environment
Agency

Welcome

- The Government must prepare for every eventuality, including a No Deal scenario. The Government has been implementing a significant programme of work to ensure that UK is prepared to leave the EU on March 29 2019.
- **Purpose of the session is to consider the process importers need to follow to import live animals, germinal products and POAO* and other animal by-products from the EU in the event we leave the EU without a deal.**
- We will talk you through the process that needs to be followed in order to ensure Animal Plant Health Agency (APHA) receive the appropriate documentation for your consignment type.
- We will show you examples of the forms that will be required and talk you through how they are completed and sent to APHA

This webinar covers the import of the following consignment types from the EU into GB

- **Live animals and germinal products** which currently travel on an Intra Trade Animal Health Certificate (ITAHC)
- **High health status horses** from France which currently travel on a DOCOM
- **Registered horses** previously certified for import using EU vet Health Attestations
- *Live animals imported without any health certification (such as reptiles and amphibians)*
- *Products of Animal Origin from EU countries with disease outbreak safeguards measures (POAO*)*. These currently travel on an ITAHC
- *Animal by-products (ABP)* which currently travel on a DOCOM

Those in bold are most relevant to your industry. Those in italics are included for completeness.

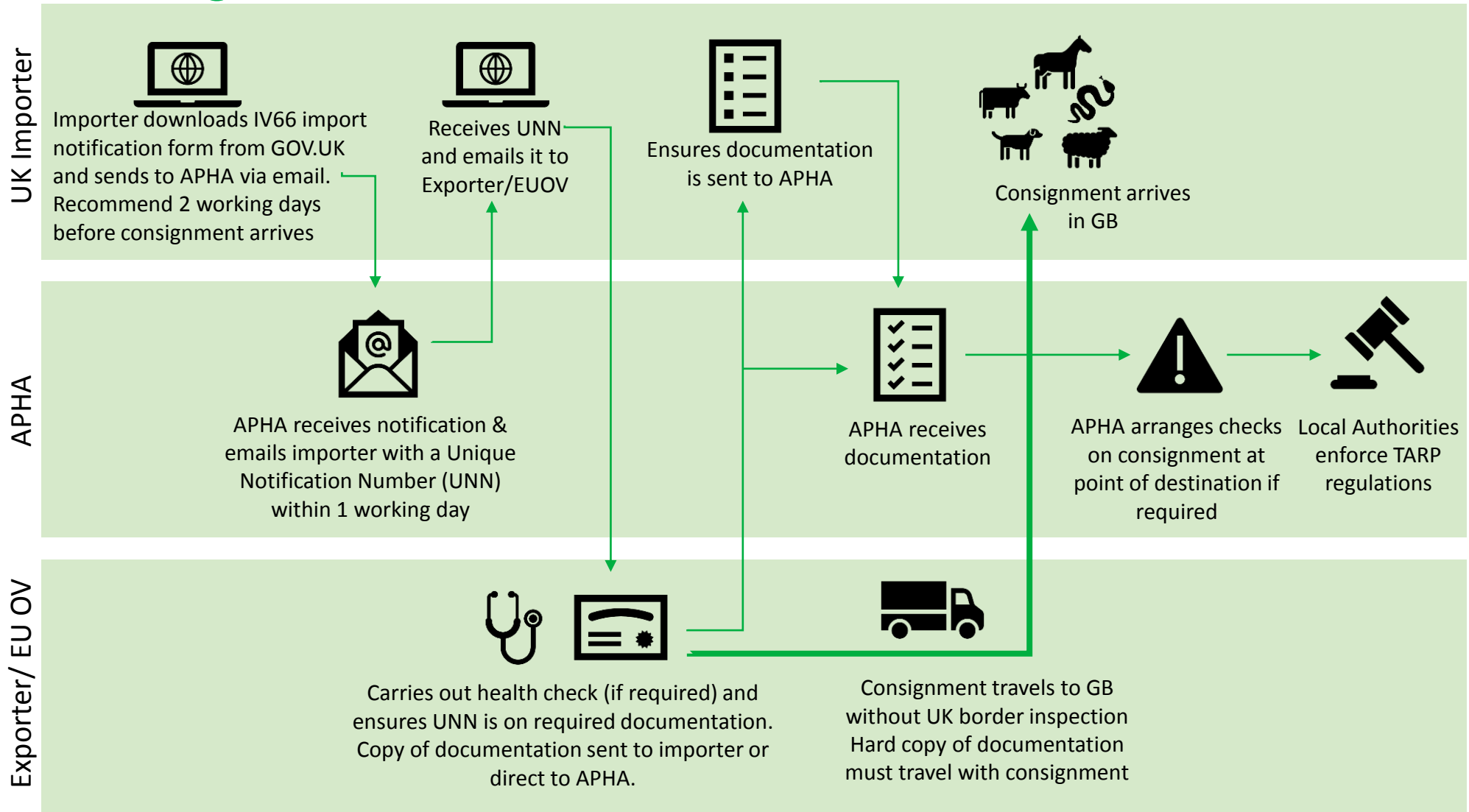
What we will not be covering

- The imports of **live fish including ornamental fish and shellfish** is overseen by the Fish Health Inspectorate. They have published renewed guidance for the import of these commodity groups which can be found here:
 - [FHI Scotland](#)
 - [FHI England/Wales](#)
- We will not be covering in detail the requirements for importers importing **live animals, POAO* and germinal products from the EU to Northern Ireland**. DAERA have their own (similar) processes which they will disseminate.
- Finally, this guidance does not apply to the **import of products of animal origin from areas where safeguard measures are not in place (POAO)**. There is no need for POAO imported from the EU to be notified to APHA. FSA will publish updates on any future notification required.

The challenge in a No Deal Scenario

- In a No Deal scenario, the UK will no longer have access to the EU import notification system, TRACES.
- The UK is launching a new system called the 'Import of Products, Animals, Food and Feed System' (IPAFFS) to ensure imports of live animals, products of animal origin, animal by-products, germplasm and high-risk food and feed not of animal origin can continue after exit. This system will be available for all 3rd country imports to the UK by the end of March and is expected to be ready for EU Imports in the summer.
- If you import live animals, POAO* and germinal products from the EU you will need to send information electronically to the competent authorities through a different process.

The overall process for importing these consignments from the EU into GB





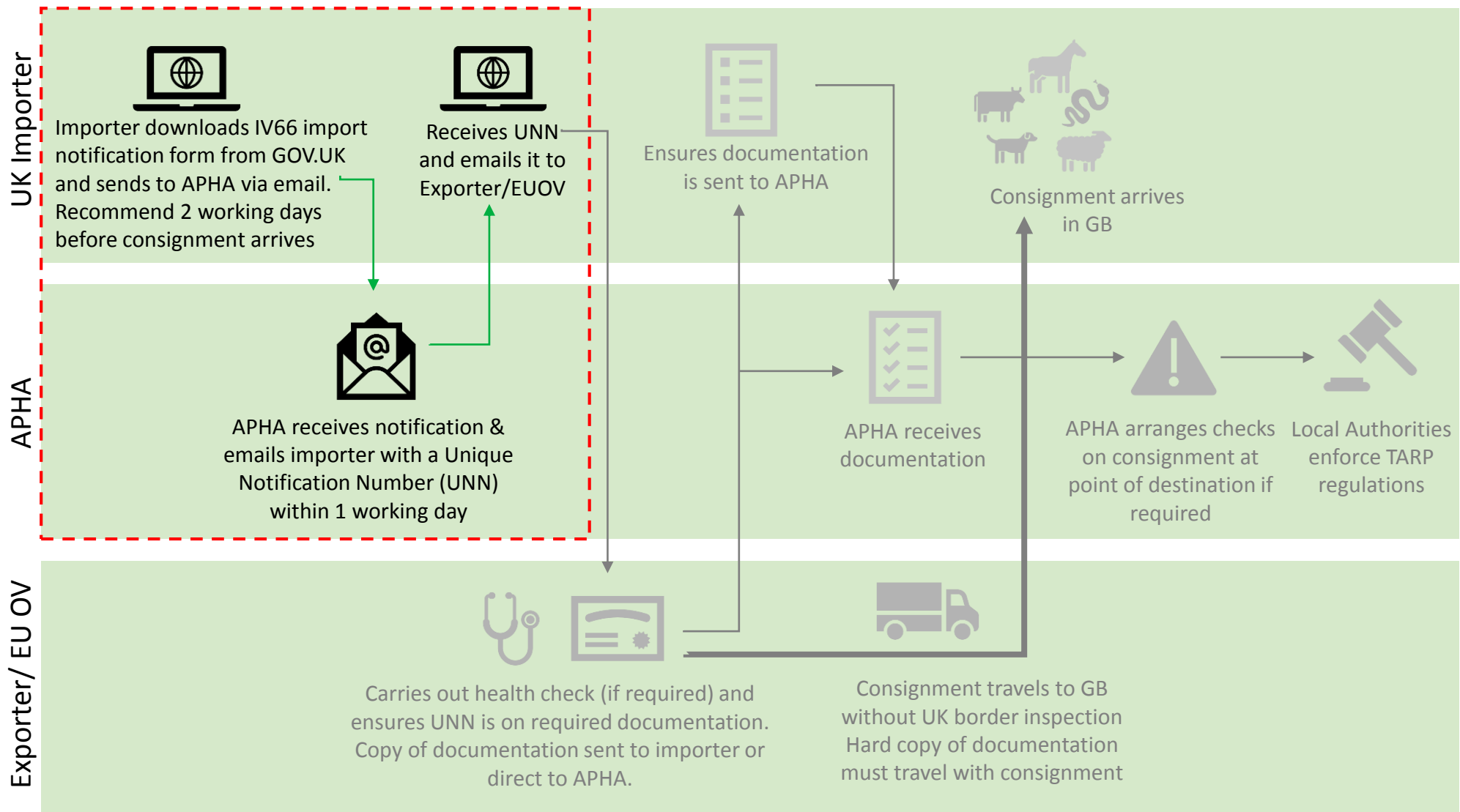
Stage 1 – Notification to APHA

Required for the import of all covered commodities from the EU to Great Britain

Except, all horses travelling from ROI to the UK (including Northern Ireland) are exempt from the requirement to pre-notify APHA/DAERA.



Stage 1: The UK importer must notify APHA*



*DAERA will have their own process for notification

When and how do I notify APHA?



The UK importer must notify Animal & Plant Health Agency (APHA) of the arrival of any of all of the covered consignments. We recommend doing so at **least 2 working days before its arrival in the UK**



The UK importer may notify **up to 30 days in advance**



The IV66 import notification form will be hosted on GOV.UK from **20 March**



When complete, it should be sent to: SM-Defra-GBImports@apha.gov.uk



APHA will provide a **Unique Notification Number (UNN)** for that consignment **within 1 working day** of receiving the notification form. The UNN will be sent by email



One **consignment (likely determined by address)** equals one notification and one UNN



The UNN **must be sent to the EU Official Veterinarian (OV) or EU exporter for input on to the consignment documentation**



The **animal welfare requirements will not change**

What does the IV66 Import Notification Form look like?

The IV66 Import Notification Form can be found [here](#).



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Stage 2 – Consignment Documentation



Forestry Commission
England

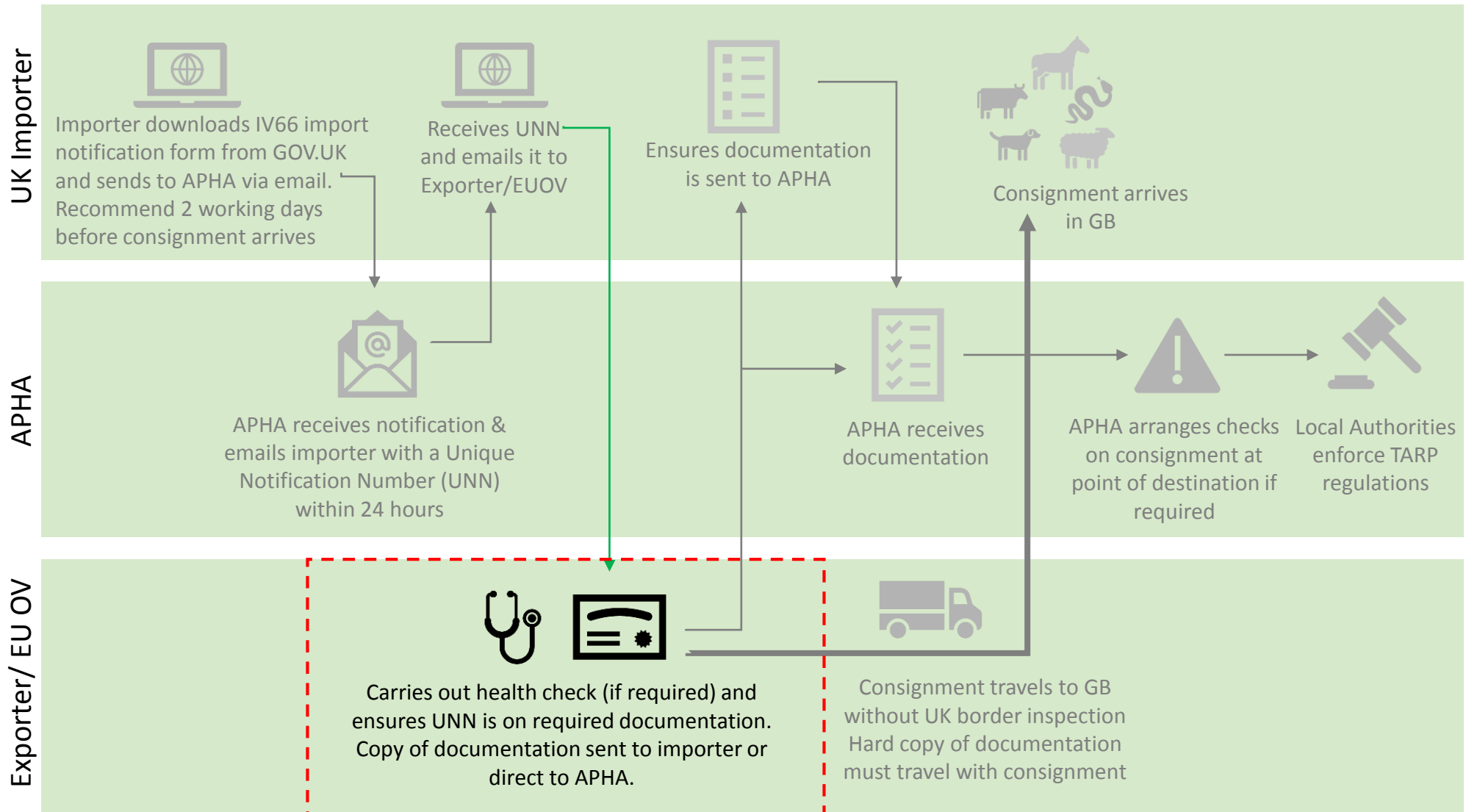


NATURAL
ENGLAND



Environment
Agency

Stage 2: Consignment Documentation



What document should my consignment travel on?



Live animals, germinal products and POAO* (from an EU country with disease safeguard measures in place) travel on an ITAHC today. They will travel on a **UK Health Certificate** in a no deal.



High health status horses from France travel on a DOCOM today. They will travel on an **Equine Commercial Document** in a no deal.



Live horses which are registered by a body approved by a competent authority travel on EU vet attestations today. They will **continue to travel on EU vet attestations** in a no deal.



Horses travelling from the RoI to the UK (including Northern Ireland) travel on **Equine IDs** today. They will **continue to travel on Equine IDs** in a no deal. **They will not be issued with a UNN or need to include this on the Equine ID.**



*Animal By-Products (ABP) which travel on a DOCOM today will travel on an **ABP Commercial Document** in a no deal*



*Live animals which do not require a health certificate today (e.g. insects, reptiles and amphibians) travel on commercial documentation. They will **continue to travel on commercial documentation** in a no deal.*



All consignment documentation should include the UNN, bar the exemption above. The UK will continue to accept EU certification documents (e.g. ITAHC) for 6 months after exit.

What does a UK Health Certificate look like?

You can find the UK Health Certificates [here](#).

What does an Equine Commercial Document look like?

You can find the Equine Commercial Document [here](#).



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Stage 3 – Returning Consignment Documentation and travelling to UK



Forestry Commission
England

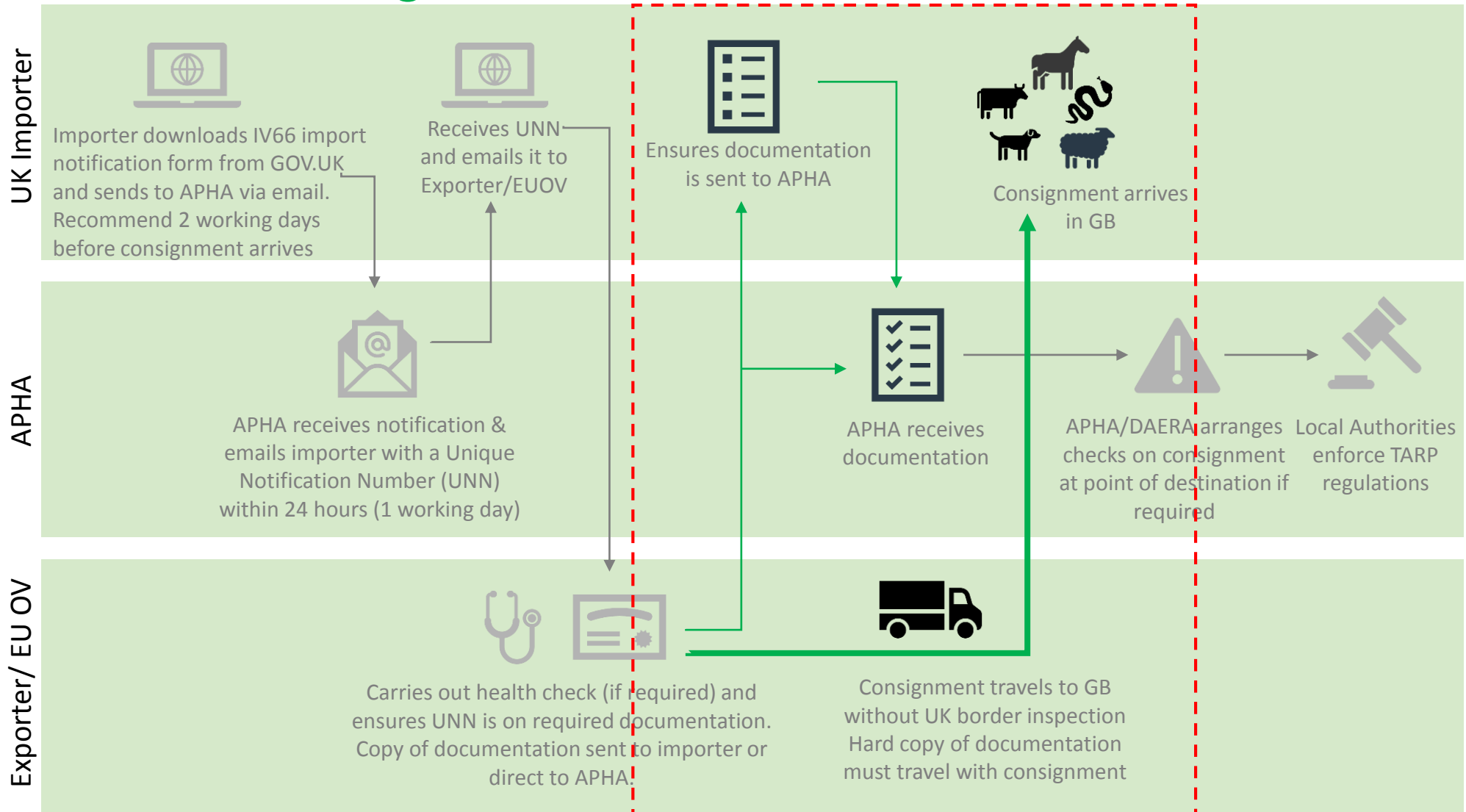


NATURAL
ENGLAND



Environment
Agency

Stage 3: Returning Consignment Documentation and travelling to UK



Where should I return my consignment documentation?



It is the UK importer's responsibility to ensure that the complete - i.e. containing the UNN – consignment documentation is **returned to the devolved APHA office**. This may be done by the EU exporter

- England: SM-Defra-EnglandImports@apha.gov.uk
- Scotland: SM-Defra-ScotlandImports@apha.gov.uk
- Wales: SM-Defra-WalesImports@apha.gov.uk



The **timeframes between OV certification and departure** from the EU will not change. For example:

- Equine & Bovine semen – 24 hours
- Horses, cats dogs – 48 hours
- Poultry, game birds (including hatching eggs & day old chicks – 3 days)
- Poultry intended for slaughter – 5 days

When can my consignment travel to GB?



Once the consignment documentation is complete, the consignment is **free to travel to GB**



The consignment should travel with a **hard copy of its documentation**



The consignment will face **no border checks** upon entry to GB and there is **no requirement for it to enter through a BIP**



EU issued Transport Authorisation, Certificates of Competence and Vehicle Approval Certificates will remain valid for journeys into the UK for an, as yet, undetermined period of time



In a no deal scenario, **UK issued** Transport Authorisation, Certificates of Competence and Vehicle Approval Certificates will **no longer be valid in the EU after 29th March**. They will be valid for transportation in the UK.

UK transporters wishing to transport live animals in the EU after the UK leaves will need to **appoint a representative within an EU country** and apply to the relevant government department within that Member State to obtain the valid documentation. More information [here](#)



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Stage 4 – Consignment checks, if required



Forestry Commission
England

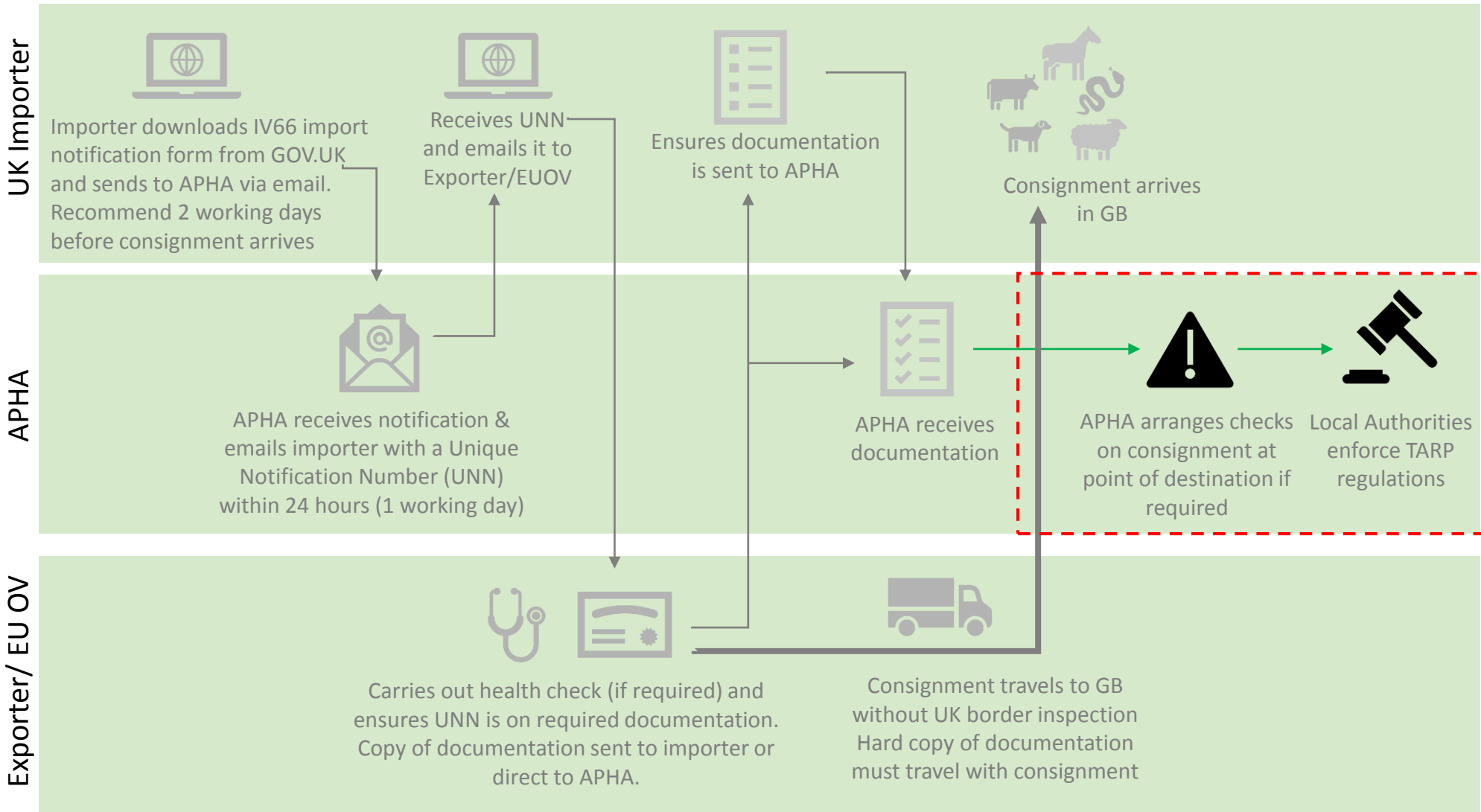


NATURAL
ENGLAND



Environment
Agency

Stage 4: Consignment checks, if required



Will my consignment be checked upon entry to, or within, GB?



Your consignment will face **no UK border checks**



As per existing rules, consignments **maybe subject to checks within 48hours of import into the UK.**



APHA will make a **risk based assessment** on whether a check is required. If one is, this will be arranged at **point of destination**



Where consignments are to be held at any **interim destination address**, they must be held for a **minimum of 48hours** before travelling onto their permanent address



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Importing Live Animals and Animal Products directly from a non-EU country



Forestry Commission
England



Environment
Agency

Import of Live Animals and Animal Products from outside the EU

After the UK leaves the EU, you'll still be able to import animals, animal products, food and feed whether from the EU or elsewhere. However, the **process for notifying the UK authorities of these imports will change.**

If the UK leaves the EU without a deal on 29 March, you'll **no longer have access to the EU's import system TRACES (Trade Control and Expert System)** for importing into the UK.

To ensure imports of live animals, products of animal origin, animal by-products, germplasm and high-risk food and feed not of animal origin can continue after exit, the **UK has launched a new system called the 'Import of products, animals, food and feed system' (IPAFFS).**

You may start to register for IPAFFS now, please see [this guidance](#).



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Importing Live Animals and Animal Products from a non-EU country via the EU



Forestry Commission
England



NATURAL
ENGLAND



Environment
Agency

Import of Live Animals and Animal Products from outside the EU via the EU

If you're importing Products of Animal Origin (POAO), germplasm and ABPs not for human consumption that are subject to vet checks from non-EU countries but they are transiting through the EU to the UK, they'll need to arrive in the UK through a Border Inspection Post (BIP).

If you're importing high risk food and feed from non-EU countries that will transit through the EU, they'll need to arrive in the UK through a Designated Point of Entry (DPE).

If you're importing live animals and germinal products from a non-EU country that is transiting through the EU to the UK, they will need to be checked at a BIP on entry into the UK. Further guidance may follow.



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

When do the import changes come into effect?



Forestry Commission
England



Environment
Agency

When do the import changes come into effect?

- The UK will continue to have access to TRACES up until we leave the EU. In a no deal scenario, we will leave the EU on the 29th March at 11pm.
- If your consignment is due to arrive before 11pm on 29th March, please continue to notify APHA in the same manner you do today and your exporter should continue to use TRACES to create the required consignment documentation (e.g. ITAHC or DOCOM).
- The UK may agree the Withdrawal Agreement or an extension of Article 50 at any point between now and 29th March. Should these be agreed, we expect to have continued access to TRACES during the transition period/to the new leave date. Notification to APHA will remain a requirement.
- If your consignment is due to arrive in the UK after 11pm on the 29th March but you need to notify before 29th March we recommend you use both this new process for notification and sending in the required documentation AND notify using TRACES as per current practice.
- Your EU OV/Exporter will need to access the required health certification (UK Health Certificate or Commercial Document)
- The notification form and UK Health Certificates and DOCOM will be available on GOV.UK from 20th March. APHA will be able to accept notifications and produce UNNs from 20th March
- It is important you communicate with your exporters in the country of origin to ensure they understand what documents they need to provide you with. Further updates will be included on GOV.UK.



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Exporting Live Animals and POAO

Exports to the EU from the UK

To export animals, animal products, fish or fishery products from the UK to the EU, the EU would require the UK to be a **listed third country**. Without listed status no exports to the EU could take place. We are confident we meet the requirements to be listed.

Additionally you'll need:

- An **export health certificate** (EHC), which you need to apply for in advance
- to have your EHC signed by an **authorised signatory** following an inspection of your consignment
- to ensure the trade route for your goods allows for your consignment to be checked at a **border inspection post (BIP) at the first EU country** you enter for export
- to make sure your EU-based import agent has **notified the BIP** that your consignment is arriving **at least 24 hours** in advance
- to comply with wider **HMRC guidance** on customs requirements for exporting to the EU

Exports to non-EU countries from the UK

- It is anticipated that there will be **no change to current export rules and processes for countries outside the EU.**
- However, exporters should check they are using the latest version of the [EHC](#) for each particular destination. See the [existing guidance on exporting live animals](#).
- Consignments destined for non-EU countries that transit the EU will either need an EU Transit Certificate if available or will need to be accompanied by an EHC for the destination that will be the EU BIP of exit. EU Transit Certificates can be found on the [EHC finder](#).

Considerations for businesses - getting an EHC

- If sending regular/short-notice export consignments – consider grouping your export consignments, or working with your OV to secure batches of serial-numbered EHCs
 - Identify suitable Official Vets to sign your EHCs
 - Encourage EU importers/buyers to register on TRACES
 - If you are exporting previously imported goods – consider the requirement to obtain an official certificate from the countries of origin for the ingredients in question to enable the EHC to be signed
 - Support us by highlighting Certification Support Officer (CSO) role and current free training
 - Let us know what support/info would assist you
-



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Getting prepared

Getting prepared – any steps I can take?

- The process requires communication between the importer, APHA and the exporter – **ensure you have access to email**
 - **Talk to your exporter** about the UK's new import process
 - **The required documentation** for transporting consignments within the EU.
 - The forms that need to be completed are in pdf format. Ensure your computer has **pdf reader software** installed (e.g. Adobe)
 - Set an **alert on the appropriate GOV.UK pages** so when there is an update you will receive notifications. To subscribe to Defra alerts follow this [link](#)
 - Dedicated **Defra team** to answer your questions:
 - Jo Bishenden Joanne.Bishenden@defra.gov.uk
 - Emily Murphy Emily.Murphy@defra.gsi.gov.uk
-